

SUMMARY, RAMIFICATIONS, AND SCOPE

Accordingly, the reader will see that the umbrella support device of this invention can be easily
5 installed, that it can be economically produced and marketed. Since it is supported in front of the operator
rather than behind, such as those similar to Diaz, U.S. Pat. No. 6,105,594, it allows him or her to control
the position of the umbrella easily without having to turn around. Furthermore, it can be quickly removed
when desired.

Although the description above contains many specifications, these should not be construed as
10 limiting the scope of the invention but as merely providing illustrations of some of the presently preferred
embodiments of this invention. For example, the offset frame could be molded as a single unit, the pivoting
assembly could be of a friction design , etc.

Thus the scope of the invention should be determined by the appended claims and their legal
equivalents, rather than by the examples given.

We claim:

1. An umbrella support device for mounting in front of the operator's seat of a lever steering type
20 riding lawnmower, comprising:

an offset frame, the lower end of the offset frame mounted on the mower's structure mesial said
operator's legs and below said operator's seat, said offset frame configured to clear said operator's hands
when moving the steering levers, the upper end of said offset frame configured to receive the lower end of
an umbrella's shaft.

2. An umbrella support device as defined in claim 1, wherein said lower end of said offset frame is
25 pivotally mounted to said mower's structure allowing said operator to pivot the umbrella forward and aft.

3. An umbrella support device as defined in claim 2, further including pivoting means and locking
means to secure said offset frame in a desired position.

4. An umbrella support device as defined in claim 3, wherein the locking means may include ball
30 and spring plungers, detents, friction assemblies, and the like.

5. An umbrella support device as defined in claim 1, wherein the upper end of said offset frame is
configured to rotationally receive the lower end of the umbrella's shaft.

6. An umbrella support device as defined in claim 5, further including spindle means mounted on the lower end of said umbrella's shaft, the spindle means provides for rotation in said upper end of said offset frame and for vertical adjustment when said offset frame is in a vertical position.

5 7. An umbrella support device as defined in claim 1, further including an umbrella.

8. An umbrella support device for mounting in front of the operator's seat of a lever steering type riding lawnmower, comprising:

an offset frame, the lower end of the offset frame pivotally mounted on the mower's structure mesial the operator's legs and below said operator's seat, allowing said operator to lower a mounted umbrella by pushing it forward and to raise it to a vertical position by pulling it aft, said offset frame
10 configured to clear said operator's hands when moving the steering levers, the upper end of said offset frame configured to rotationally receive the lower end of an umbrella's shaft, the lower end of the umbrella shaft mounted in spindle means providing for rotation and for vertical adjustment in said upper end of said offset frame, and an umbrella.

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